

Serial No. 10/506,480
Examiner Noakes
Group Art Unit 1656

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete paragraph [0008] and replace with the following paragraph:

[0008] All known fusion partners that bind to the streptavidin containing the amino acid sequence HPQ, the so-called HPQ binding motif coming into interaction with the biotin-binding pocket of the streptavidin. To the already known peptides belong the so-called Strep-tag I: AWRHPQFGG [SEQ ID NO: 18] with a dissociation constant of K_d of $10 - 37 \mu\text{M}$, the so-called Strep-tag II: WSHPQFEK [SEQ ID NO: 19] with a dissociation constant K_d of $18 - 72 \mu\text{M}$, and the so-called SBP-tag:

MDEKTTGWRGGIIVVEGLAGELEQLRARLEHH ·PQQQREP [SEQ ID NO: 20] with a dissociation constant K_d of 2.5 nM . In contrast to the two short Strep-tags I and II, the longer SBP-tag has a substantially stronger binding to the streptavidin. However, as mentioned above, the function of the defined protein is particularly affected with increasing length of the fusion partner. Further, particularly long fusion partners disturb the crystallization of the defined proteins.